

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 OIC-02 SS-15 VO-05 CPR-02
CA-01 PA-01 SY-05 USSS-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 STR-07 HA-05
NSC-05 MCT-01 L-03 /100 W
-----117309 091354Z /50

R 081302Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1649
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4594

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OAS, EGEN, PORG, SHUM, JM
SUBJECT: JAMAICA AT THE VIII OASGA

REF: STATE 138219, STATE 123344

1. BOTH PERMSEC AND DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN OFFICE TOLD EMBOFF THAT AS OF JUNE 6 JAMAICA HAD NOT YET DECIDED FORMALLY WHO WOULD HEAD DELEGATION TO VIII OASGA. BOTH STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY BE FONMIN P.J. PATTERSON WHO WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY PETER BLACK, THE OFFICER IN THE MINISTRY RESPONSIBLE FOR LATIN AMERICA. FONMIN OFFICIALS PROMISED TO INFORM US AS SOON AS A DEFINITE DECISION IS MADE. FONMIN PATTERSON, NOW IN NEW YORK, WILL BE GOING TO TORONTO BEFORE RETURNING HERE JUNE 12 AND DECISION NOT EXPECTED TO BE MADE UNTIL AFTER HIS RETURN.

2. BOTH OFFICIALS STRESSED SPONTANEOUSLY THAT IN CONNECTION WITH RATIFICATION EXCHANGE CEREMONY IN PANAMA, U.S. HAS
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GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO EXERT LEADERSHIP ROLE TOWARD NEW INITIATIVES IN HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION. FROM JAMAICAN VIEWPOINT OBVIOUSLY NIEO IS MAIN SUBJECT TOWARD WHICH THEY WOULD HOPE ANY INITIATIVE WOULD BE DIRECTED. THEY DID NOT, HOWEVER, LIMIT THEIR INTERESTS TO NIEO BUT STRESSED U.S. NOW IN POSITION TO LAUNCH MAJOR POLITICAL, AS WELL AS ECONOMIC COOPERATION EFFORTS. FULL SUPPORT FOR

TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF BELIZE WAS ONLY EXAMPLE CITED.

3. CONCERNING OASGA AGENDA, JAMAICANS HAVE NOT YET PREPARED POSITIONS. DIRECTOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMENTED TO EMBOFF DURING RECENT DISCUSSION THAT CHARTER LONG OVERDUE FOR REVISION BUT THAT JAMAICA STILL STUDYING POSITION IT WILL TAKE TOWARD ASPECTS OF RESTRUCTURING. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT ON THE QUESTION OF REDUCING U.S. CONTRIBUTION, JAMAICAN POSITION NOT YET FIRM. JAMAICA WOULD CONTINUE ITS FIRM SUPPORT FOR ELIMINATION OF ARTICLE 8. ON ECONOMIC ISSUES JAMAICANS CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE AMONG THOSE PUSHING ATTACK ON PERCEIVED TRADE RESTRICTIONS AND TO TAKE STRONG STAND ON FURTHERING ITS CONCEPT OF NIEO.

4. ON HUMAN RIGHTS HE SAID JAMAICANS WELL AWARE INTEREST CERTAIN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES RELATE HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM. JAMAICAN POSITION ON TERRORISM, HE ADDED, REMAINED AS STATED AT 31ST UNGA. "WE COMPLETELY ABHOR AND DENOUNCE THE INHUMAN ACT OF TAKING HOSTAGES, ENDANGERING THE LIVES OF INNOCENT INDIVIDUALS. WE ARE, HOWEVER, EQUALLY CONCERNED TO SEE THAT THE MEASURES TAKEN TO STAMP OUT THIS EVIL NOT ONLY ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOGNIZED PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BUT DO NOT IN THEMSELVES CREATE POSSIBILITIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN SECURING THE RELEASE OF HOSTAGES. FOR THAT REASON....ANY CONVENTION ON THIS

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SUBJECTINCLUDE PROCEDURES FOR SECURING THEIR PROMPT AND SAFE RELEASE...."
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